

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

DATE: Monday, March 13, 2006
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
PRESENT: Selectmen Adams, Herl, Cloutier, Gagnon, and Gaucher; Town Administrator Terenzini; Administrative Assistant Simpson.

At 7:00 p.m. Chairman Adams called the meeting to order. Motion by Mr. Gagnon to approve the minutes of workshop of February 22, 2006, and regular meeting of February 27, 2006; seconded by Mr. Cloutier. Motion passed, 5-0.

CITIZENS' INPUT: Sharon Wood of 10 Gauthier Road said she felt there were double standards when people speak during meetings and that Mr. Cloutier owed Ms. Gaucher an apology for unprofessional behavior. Bill Shemeth of 6 Dale Street said regarding the flag lowering policy he felt the flag should be lowered for town employees killed in the line of duty.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Action Re: Framework for Lowering of Flag: Chairman Adams reviewed the options discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Gagnon said he had spoken with veterans at the VWF and found that they adhere to the U.S. flag code, and he felt the town could too. Motion by Mr. Gagnon to lower the flag when ordered (authorized) by the President (Governor) per the U.S. code; seconded by Mr. Herl. Chairman Adams said he was in favor because it removed the element of discretion. Motion passed, 5-0. Mr. Terenzini was asked to prepare a policy for adoption at the meeting of March 27, and it was clarified the marquee could be draped in black bunting upon request.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Introduction of New Staff and Appointees: There were no introductions.

b. Presentation Re: WRTA (William Lehtola): Transportation Representative William Lehtola gave a report on the WRTA budget, equipment replacement, and the recent promotional campaign in Spencer. The promotion cost \$1,000 in advertising, \$117 was saved by residents who purchased discount tickets, 241 coupons were used, and merchants who participated in the promotion said they were very pleased with the results. The Board thanked Mr. Lehtola for his hard work and his time, and there was discussion of the possibility of having another promotion when the Wal-Mart in Leicester opens and more rides are added to the route.

c. Action Re: Citizen-Soldier Monument Committee: Mr. Terenzini said they were planning to reach out to the Massasoit Art Guild for a potential committee member, and that the SelectBoard had not yet appointed its member. Motion by Mr. Herl to accept the composition and charge as presented and to nominate Chairman Adams to serve; seconded by Mr. Gagnon. Motion passed, 5-0.

d. Action Re: Correct Perambulation of Bounds Rain/Snow Date: Motion by Mr. Herl to correct rain/snow date for perambulation from May 5 to May 6; seconded by Mr. Cloutier. Motion passed, 5-0.

e. Action Re: Costs of Education Transportation: Mr. Terenzini spoke of the three different types of school transportation costs, and the three requests the Board was being asked to urge the delegation to

consider. Motion by Mr. Herl to endorse letter to delegation and East Brookfield Board of Selectmen as written; seconded by Mr. Cloutier. Motion passed, 5-0.

f. Presentation Re: State of the Town (Chairman Adams): Chairman Adams gave his State of the Town address. He noted on page four that the HUD grant for DPI was in the amount of \$4.2 million, not \$2 million as written. See separate copy on file in the Town Clerk's office.

g. Presentation Re: Proposed Budget FY '07: Mr. Terenzini presented his proposed budget for FY '07. Motion by Mr. Herl to close draft warrant for special and annual town meetings of May 4 and to refer legislative packet to next workshop; seconded by Mr. Gagnon. Motion passed, 5-0.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS: None.

CITIZENS' INPUT: None.

BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS: Ms. Gaucher said she had not yet seen the warrant but she questioned the voting hours for the town election and said she was appalled that no money in the budget was being put to stabilization. Chairman Adams and Mr. Terenzini confirmed that there would be substantial deposits to stabilization. Mr. Gagnon thanked Chairman Adams for his State of the Town address and Mr. Terenzini for his budget presentation. Mr. Herl said he had not seen the warrant or budget either. Chairman Adams said the voting hours would be 12 to 8 p.m. as they had been for the last several years. He also noted that Judy Lochner had resigned as Wetlands & Soils Specialist, the town had received a waste reduction grant, the Peace Symposium was scheduled to start March 19, Tim Howard had sent compliments to the fire and highway departments, the next Selectmen's workshop would be March 20, and the next Selectmen's business meeting would be March 27.

At 8:14 p.m., motion by Mr. Herl to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Cloutier. Motion passed, 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Simpson, Administrative Assistant

_____ Chairman

_____ Vice Chairman

_____ Clerk

_____ Member

_____ Member

Board of Selectmen